to Kumarghat has been completed. The proposal would be considered further once gauge conversion of Lumding-Badarpur is nearing completion, depending on operational requirements and availability of resources.

Unsafe Railway Bridges in Kerala

766. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the past five years at least twenty eight railway bridges in Kerala have been identified as unsafe for rail traffic; and

(b) if so, the details of these bridges and steps being taken for their replacement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Raview of Tatkal Services

767. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tatkal Services are effective; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to keep the system transparent to help genuine needy passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) The Tatkal Scheme is patronised. In order to ensure that the accommodation earmarked in Tatkal coach is availed by the bonafide and genuine passengers, railways have taken a number of precautions and safeguards which are as under:—

(i) Reservation under this scheme starts at 8.00 A.M. on the day prior to the day of the journey.

(ii) Reservation under this scheme can be made only on the authority of one of the proofs of identity mentioned in this scheme. The serial number of proof of identity is indicated on the ticket.